

## MOBILE COUNTY RECORDS REQUEST FORM

Date: April 12, 2014

Time: 11:00 a.m

INFORMATION REQUESTED: ALL Correspondence between the County, Metro J Staff and Department of Justice concerning Mobile Metro Jail between Jan. 1, 2016 and April 12, 2014-

### THE FOLLOWING MUST BE COMPLETED

NAME Jason Johnson PHONE 334-701-9145  
(Please Print Legibly)

EMAIL Jason@lagniappemobile.com

ADDRESS P.O. Box 3003 CITY/ZIP Mobile AL 36652  
(Street Address Required, No P.O. Boxes Accepted)

SIGNATURE Jason Johnson ORGANIZATION Lagniappe

**MATERIALS:** The cost of copies sized 8½ by 11 or 8½ by 14 inches is \$0.25 per page. Charges for maps, plats and other large documents are set by the applicable department. Fees are due whether the records are provided by paper or by PDF or other electronic file. The fee for records provided by DVD is \$5.00.

**LABOR:** No labor charge is imposed when a nominal amount of staff time is needed to respond to a request. Charges for requests requiring more than 15 minutes of staff time are based upon the hourly base rate of pay for the employee(s) of the applicable department(s) responding to the request, multiplied by the actual time worked. Time is computed on the basis of quarter hours, rounded up. Labor charges are in addition to the per page or per DVD cost specified above and are due and payable even if no records responsive to the request are located, or in the event the requested records are subsequently determined to be exempt from disclosure.

**DEPOSIT/PAYMENT:** A deposit is required when the Office of Public Affairs determines that one (1) hour or more of staff time will be needed to respond to a request. If the final cost is less than the deposit, the difference will be refunded; if greater, the additional cost must be paid prior to delivery or review of the records. Payment amount will be emailed to requestor and payment must be received prior to release of documents. Checks or money orders made out to Mobile County are accepted, as are cash payments. Credit/debit card payments cannot be accepted.

**EMAIL:** To ensure the fastest service possible, please email this completed form to Katherine Eddy, Public Affairs Director, [Kathy.Eddy@mobilecountyal.gov](mailto:Kathy.Eddy@mobilecountyal.gov) And to: Dena Pollard, Public Information Officer, [Dena.Pollard@mobilecountyal.gov](mailto:Dena.Pollard@mobilecountyal.gov)



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November 9, 2016

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**HAND DELIVERY**

The Honorable Jerry Carl  
President  
Mobile County Commission  
Mobile Government Plaza  
9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Mobile, Alabama 36602

Re: Mobile County Metro Jail  
Today's Exit Interview with Department of Justice

Dear Commissioner Carl:

The Department of Justice (DoJ) and three subject-matter consultants inspected the Jail and reviewed Jail operations in September.

We had a telephonic exit interview with the lead DoJ attorney and the three subject-matter consultants this morning. Two issues described as serious and emergent were discussed, and because of the emergent nature of those issues it is necessary that I bring them to your attention so that necessary remedial action can be taken as soon as possible.

**First issue: Suicide hazard in 402 Wedge**

This is the wedge where female inmates that are at risk for suicide are housed. The subject-matter consultants identified several hazards within the individual cells that create "5 or 6 ways" for an inmate to attempt suicide. Those hazards include electrical outlets, fixed bars, vent holes, coat hooks, and broken sinks with jagged edges. Several of these physical features create a hanging point. The fixtures in these cells are also leaking water on the floors.

I verified the existence of these hazards this morning, and photographs are enclosed.

The subject-matter consultants made these same hazards known several years ago, and noted this morning that they are unresolved. The DoJ attorney noted the seriousness of the failure to resolve.

Because of the serious and emergent nature of these hazards, we are requesting that appropriate remedial action be taken immediately. This will necessarily require the involvement of County maintenance staff and possibly independent contractors.

**Second issue: Shower curtains**

The consultants noted that the opaque shower curtains throughout the Jail extend from floor to ceiling and are held in place by a rigid bar. These curtains and bars are shown in three of the photographs that are enclosed.

The floor to ceiling curtains create an issue in that inmate(s) could slip behind a curtain and remain unseen by correctional staff. The rigid bars create a hanging point. This is particularly serious in the suicide wedges and in the medical wedges, as noted by the consultants during the exit interview. The consultants noted that these hazards are serious and emergent throughout the jail, and they emphasized the emergent need for remedial action in the suicide and medical wedges.

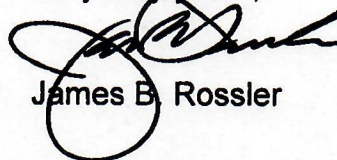
Potential fixes for this include: installation of privacy panels, that block only the inmate's torso but allow observation of areas below the knees and above the shoulders; and removal of the rigid bars and use of shower curtains that are held by velcro straps.

Because of the serious and emergent nature of these hazards, we are requesting that appropriate remedial action be taken. We are also requesting that these hazards be addressed immediately in the suicide wedges and the medical wedges.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need any further information.

With highest regards, I remain,

Very truly yours,



James B. Rossler



cc: John Pafenbach  
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Sheriff Sam Cochran  
Warden Trey Oliver  
Deputy Warden Sam Houston

